

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application, as presently amended, is respectfully requested.

Claims 9-12 are pending in the present application. Claims 1-8 have been cancelled by the present amendment. Claims 1-7 were rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as being anticipated by Tanno. Claims 8 was rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tanno in view of JP '274.

Claims 9-12 were indicated by the Examiner as being allowable (see Examiner's Interview Summary form faxed to Applicant on September 13, 2005, indicating that claim 12 is allowed.).

Applicant acknowledges with appreciation the indication of allowable subject matter with respect to claims 9-12. In order to expedite the prosecution of the present application and place the application in condition for allowance, the present amendment cancels claims 1-8, without prejudice. Applicant reserves the right to pursue the subject matter of claims 1-8 in a continuation application.

Accordingly, claims 9-12 which were indicated by the Examiner as being allowable remain pending in the present application. In view of the above, it is believed that the present application is in condition for allowance, and an early and favorable action is therefore requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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If the Examiner is unable to reach the Applicant(s) Attorney at the telephone number provided, the Examiner is requested to communicate with Eastman Kodak Company Patent Operations at (585) 477-4656.